

**A Quick Look**

Encompasses over  
2100 acres

Over 70 miles of trails

Three lakes

19 parks

Park activities and  
amenities include:

Archaeological Sites

Baseball

Basketball

Bicycling

Birding

Boating

Bocce Ball

Bouldering

Disc Golf

Dog Park

Fishing

Football

Geocaching

Hiking

Horseback Riding

Horseshoes

Jogging

Mountain Biking

Nature Study

Skate Parks

Soccer

Softball

Special Needs Programs

Volleyball

Walking

and more

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Advisory Board**

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*City of Prescott*

*Recreation Services Director*

**Prescott Today**

A mile high city with a population of 40,000 residents, the City of Prescott enjoys a mild, four season climate. Rich in history, Prescott was founded in 1864 as the Territorial Capital of Arizona and served as the capital from 1864 to 1867, and from 1877 to 1889. Prescott proudly claims the world's oldest rodeo and Arizona's oldest bar at the Palace Restaurant and Saloon, once frequented by the likes of the Earp brothers and Doc Holliday. The town centers around the Courthouse, erected in 1916-17, and is surrounded by era buildings which maintain the City's American western flavor. Victorian era homes can still be seen on shaded tree lined streets in town.

Located in Arizona's central highlands, diverse ecosystems support a wide variety of flora and fauna, drawing species from the Colorado Plateau to the north and Sonoran Desert regions to the south. With an appealing climate, diverse ecosystems, small town western feel, and history, Prescott has been consistently rated as one of the places to visit in Arizona. Two of the lakes and trails have also been highly rated and continue to see increased activity with people visiting from across the country and around the world.

Over the last three years the Prescott Recreation Services Department has seen many changes and acquired new responsibilities. This issue is a revision of our first issue published in the winter of 2013 and also draws from previous issues. It gives a comprehensive view of the department today.



The Recreation Services Department is also responsible for landscaping and weed control on City property and easements.

*(Left)* The planters on all corners across the street from the courthouse are maintained by the landscaping crew.

*(Photo courtesy of Nancy Nesbit)*

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(Photo courtesy of Chris Hosking)

Water from Watson (above) and Willow Lakes recharge Prescott's aquifer.

### Goldwater Lake Dam

To supplement lower Goldwater Lake, upper Goldwater Dam was constructed for the City in 1932 as a surface water storage reservoir. It is a slab-buttress concrete dam with an integral spillway. It has a length of 383 feet and height of 52 feet. The maximum storage capacity is 700 acre feet.

### Watson Lake Dam

Construction of Watson Lake Dam (a.k.a. Granite Creek Dam), probably began in late 1914 and was completed in 1920 (\*NID) for the Hassayampa Alfalfa Farms Company, one of the predecessors of the Chino Valley Irrigation District (CVID). A concrete gravity arch dam with two adjacent spillway arches, its length is 187 feet with a height of 81 feet. Maximum storage capacity is 4,900 acre feet. It was designed and used to impound irrigation water for transport and use in the Chino Valley area. The Lake was named after James Watson, a U.S. Senator from Indiana (November 8, 1916 to March 4, 1933), who was a principal investor in the Arizona Land and Irrigation Company.

### Willow Lake Dam

To augment Watson Lake, the Willow Lake Dam (a.k.a. Willow Creek Dam) was built in 1936 by the CVID, and was a great depression era U.S. PWA (Public Works Administration) project. It was designed by Prescott resident James Bell Girard, P.E., who designed many projects throughout Arizona and in 1909 became the first and only territorial highway engineer. A thin arch concrete dam, it has a separated thin arch spillway. The lengths total 297 feet with a dam height of 99 feet. Maximum storage capacity is 7,800 acre feet.

The City of Prescott acquired both Watson and Willow dams through the purchase of assets and water rights of the CVID in 1998.

\*All dam specs are from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, NID-National Inventory of Dams.

## Our History

Prescott benefits from recreation facilities dating to 1905 with City Park (Ken Lindley Stadium) and facilities constructed during the Great Depression by the Works Progress Administration. The Recreation Services Department traces its origin to 1958. The first director, A.C. Williams, served for over 25 years, and his office was housed in Ken Lindley Stadium. He planned and constructed many of the parks still enjoyed today, and pursued many federal grants, and patented federal lands designated for recreation. A.C. was diligent in creating adult sports leagues for softball, basketball, and volleyball, and worked with the school district for sharing facilities. He also created Prescott's softball destination recognition, a tradition still found today. From the 1960s to 1980s, A.C. secured Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund monies derived from off-shore oil leases, which provided funding for many of Prescott's parks.

The 1990s brought many exciting additions to the Department's portfolio. These included the City-County joint development of the Pioneer Park sports complex through a lease on federal land, and funding from State Heritage Fund grants. At the same time, the City secured Federal funding to purchase portions of the former Santa Fe Railroad grade, for conversion to a recreation trail, and the Mile-High Trail System was born. Also in the 1990s, the City contributed \$1 million towards the new YMCA to better serve area youth, and Acker Park on Virginia Street was created. In 1998, through a voter-approved referendum, the City purchased Willow and Watson Lakes (i.e., water rights and land base) from Chino Valley Irrigation District for \$15 million.

Since 2000, the Department has diversified its portfolio with many partners with the expansion of the Mile-High Trail System; opening the Mike Fann Community Skate Park; Willow Creek Dog Park; Watson Lake Horseshoe Complex; expanded water-based amenities at Willow and Watson Lakes; purchase of high quality lands in the Granite Dells; purchasing and opening of the Community Nature Center; development of the Rowle P. Simmons Community Center; and Granite Creek pump track. Other highlights include a Special Needs Activity Program, sports leagues, events, and tournaments.

More recently the Antelope Hills Golf Course was added to the department's responsibilities. The 54-mile Prescott Circle Trail was completed in May 2015. Today the Recreation Services Department continues to provide quality recreation experiences for Prescott.

### Surrounded by History



Located in "The Armory" (Grace Sparkes Memorial Activity Center) the Recreation Services Department offices are surrounded with history. Other historic facilities next to the Armory include the Smoki Museum, tennis courts, and Ken Lindley Stadium and Field. All of the buildings and facilities were constructed in the 1930s as part of the U.S.A. Works Progress Administration; federal government projects providing jobs during the Great Depression. All of these buildings and facilities continue to be used and are a part of Prescott's rich history.



(Top) Works Progress Administration plaque.  
(Middle) Aerial view of "The Armory" today.  
(Bottom) Ken Lindley Stadium circa 1930s.  
(Department file photos)

## The Trails

The City's trail system is a rapidly expanding portion of the Recreation Services Department. From a pleasant half mile walk around Granite Creek Park (which connects to the Greenways Trail System) to challenging yourself along 54 miles of the Prescott Circle Trail, there is something for everyone. To date, there are 28 City trails covering over 70 miles. Elevations range from 5,016 feet to 6,052 feet.

While some trails are self-contained, many take you from one park to another. Others may connect you to yet another trail. The terrain is varied; through forests, woodlands, semi-desert regions, and riparian preserves, as well as over boulders, along creeks, and around lakes. Most trails are rural but the Greenways Trail System is in the city along Granite and Miller Creeks. The rails-to-trails Prescott Peavine National Recreation Trail follows a portion of the old Santa Fe Railroad route to Prescott.

For several years, "trail counters" have been placed and rotated on many of the trails. Numbers for 2012 indicated usage of approximately 250,000 visits a year, and approaching 800,000 visits in 2014. Prescott's trails have become a hiking destination. *Volunteer opportunities to help build Prescott's trails, as well as a list of all City trails and trail maps are available through the City website at: [www.prescott-az.gov/services/parks/trails](http://www.prescott-az.gov/services/parks/trails)*



(Left) Petroglyphs can be seen along the trails; Centennial Trail and the mesa top at Petroglyph Trail. Ruins of pithouses and pueblos dating from AD750 to AD 1300, can be seen along Butte Creek Trail just above Stricklin Forest Park.

(Bottom left) Hikers ascend the stairs along Stairway Loop, one of the trails in the Granite Gardens trail system completed in the Spring of 2013.

(Bottom middle) Mountain Bikers at Watson Lake's North Shore Trail, one of the trails making up the larger Watson Lake Loop Trail. Both Watson and Willow Lakes have loop trails encircling the lakes.

(Bottom Right) A hiker, mountain bikers, and equestrians are frequent users along the Prescott Circle Trail.

(Top Right) Kicking off the Prescott Circle Trail Commemorative Hike on May 27, 2015 were (left to right) Mike King-USFS Retired, Joe Baynes-Director, Chris Hosking-Trails & Natural Parklands Coordinator, and Eric Smith Special Projects Coordinator, City of Prescott Recreation Services Dept.

(Photos courtesy of Chris Hosking, top right-Nancy Nesbit)



### The 54-Mile Prescott Circle Trail *A Dream Realized*

After 25 years of dreaming, planning, and building, the Prescott Circle Trail (PCT) was completed in May 2015. It is a composite of individual non-motorized routes that lie on lands owned and managed by the City of Prescott, Prescott National Forest, Arizona State Land Department, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and Yavapai County.

29 miles are located in the Prescott National Forest, with the "City portion" located on the remaining 24 miles. With elevation changes ranging from approximately 5,200 feet to over 6,000 feet users are treated to all of the ecosystems in the Prescott area. Located in Arizona's central highlands, it is one of the most diverse systems in the state.

Information sheets for each of the individual trails in the Prescott National Forest that are part of the Prescott Circle Trail, can be found at the Bradshaw Ranger District office at 344 South Cortez Street, or the Prescott Chamber of Commerce - Visitor Center at 117 West Goodwin Street, which is open seven days per week. Downloadable City trail maps are available on the City website listed on the left.





**Granite Creek Park - Bicycle Pump Track**  
The 80' by 120' track is located at the southeast corner of the park. To improve bicycling skills, riders navigate the track by "pumping" their bikes over the hills and berms without pedaling.



(File Photos)

(Above left) Vista Park playground.  
Many of the parks have modern playgrounds located near ramadas or picnic tables.

(Above right) Mike Fann Community Skate Park  
(A non-supervised facility for skateboards, in-line skates, and bikes.)



**PARK HOURS**

Hours at some parks vary and are listed online for each park.

Summer: 6:00 am—10:00 pm (Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend)

Winter: 7:00 am—Sunset

Parking is free.

# The Parks

Whether you are interested in a casual day at the park with your family or geocaching (GPS treasure hunting), each of the parks has its own personality and is unique in its amenities.

There are four mini-parks (totaling approximately two acres), four neighborhood parks (totaling 11 acres), six community parks (totaling 153 acres), and five regional parks (totaling 1,241 acres).

Neighborhood and community parks generally have playgrounds for the children. Most have turf areas and many provide picnic areas with BBQs. These parks vary in size from one to 21 acres. Some of them include multi-use facilities. A few have trails or are conveniently located at a trailhead. A two-acre dog park is included in the mix.

Regional parks are larger and include multi-use facilities such as softball, baseball, soccer, volleyball (court and sand), and in-line hockey.

Other activities include basketball, football, tennis, skateboarding, dog walking, Ultimate Frisbee, geocaching, kite flying, bicycling, and horseshoes. Several parks have ramadas with BBQs and capacities ranging from 40 to 200 individuals that can be rented for events and special occasions (See page 12).

A complete list of the parks, their amenities, and locations is available online at:  
[www.prescott-az.gov/services/parks](http://www.prescott-az.gov/services/parks)



(Photo courtesy of Nancy Nesbit)

**Beneful Dog Park - "Sirens & Hydrants"**

In 2013, local resident Linda Nichols entered the Beneful Dream Park Dog Contest. After winning, construction began in September 2014. The newly refurbished park celebrated its opening on December 10, 2014. The theme, "Sirens & Hydrants", honors Prescott's 19 Granite Mountain Hotshots who lost their lives in the Yarnell Fire on June 30, 2013.

## The Lakes

Not only are our lakes beautiful; they are important! They are reservoirs supplying water to fight forest fires, have diverse ecosystems, recharge the aquifer and contain an archaeological site.

There are three lakes within the system: Goldwater, Watson, and Willow Lakes. The surface of the two northern lakes (Watson and Willow) sit at an elevation of 5,100 feet. Goldwater Lake's surface elevation is 6,000 feet and is located south of Prescott in the Bradshaw Mountains.

All the lakes are recreational; no wake lakes. There are boat launches at all three lakes (two at Watson Lake). Gasoline motors are not permitted at Goldwater and Willow Lakes. Watson Lake is unlimited horsepower, but no wake is permitted. Swimming is not permitted at any of the lakes.

The lakes provide many hiking experiences with trail maps available at various spots in the parks. Many of the activities enjoyed by guests include picnicking, bicycling, running, hiking, canoeing, kayaking, boating, fishing, horseshoes (Watson Lake), camping (Watson Lake), bocce ball (Watson Lake), disc golf (Watson Lake), rock climbing, rappelling, bouldering, birding, and nature study.



(Photos courtesy of Nancy Nesbit)

(Above) **Watson Lake**  
Located in the Granite Dells, Watson Lake's many coves make it a favorite among kayakers.



(Left) **Goldwater Lake**  
In 2014 Goldwater Lake expanded its facilities and added two large ramadas, a playground area, and ceremonial pad. Many park ramadas and other facilities are available for rent. (See page 12)

### Willow Lake Archaeological Site

In the fall and spring of 2002-2003, the City of Prescott sponsored an archaeological investigation at the village, during which numerous buried prehistoric houses, outdoor storage pits, and cooking pits were discovered and examined.

The City created the Willow Lake Archaeological Interpretive Center to preserve this important locale and to provide park visitors with an opportunity to learn and reflect on the prehistoric heritage of the Prescott area. The interpretive center consists of a self-guided tour with two ramadas housing a portion of the ruins.

People began to settle at this location as early as A.D. 850 with principal occupation between A.D. 900 and 1100. The village consisted of as many as 20 buildings. For preservation purposes, many of the buildings remain underground.

The site has been adopted by the Yavapai Chapter, Arizona Archaeological Society, who conduct tours on Saturday mornings.

For additional information visit Sharlot Hall Museum to view exhibits on Prescott's prehistoric culture and the discoveries at the Willow Lake site.



(Above) **Willow Lake Archaeological Interpretive Center**

(Below) **Willow Lake Courtesy Dock**

(Below: Photo courtesy of Nancy Nesbit)



#### HOURS

Summer: 6:00 am—10:00 pm (*Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend*)  
Winter: 7:00 am—Sunset

## Sports Page

The City of Prescott is an active community and adult sports play a big role within the Recreation Services Department. The mission is to organize and provide recreational and leisure opportunities for citizens and visitors of all ages and abilities. Per capita, the City of Prescott has the largest amount of participation in adult sports leagues for men, women, and seniors. Annually, Prescott averages 140 softball teams with nearly 2,000 individuals participating. The adult basketball and volleyball leagues support tremendous numbers of teams and participants with approximately 500 athletes participating annually in each sport.

### Community Youth Sports Leagues

- **Youth Basketball League**  
www.prescottymca.org  
(928) 445-7221 ext. 21
- **Prescott Little League Baseball**  
www.eteamz.com/prescottlittleleague  
(928) 771-1875
- **Prescott Girl's ASA Fast-Pitch Softball**  
www.prescottsoftball.com
- **AYSO Youth Soccer**  
www.eteamz.com/prescottsoccer
- **Prescott Youth Football**  
www.allianceyouthsports.org  
(928) 899-4346
- **Prescott Youth Hockey Association**  
www.prescottyouthhockey.com  
(928) 441-2520
- **PAL Boxing Club**  
(928) 227-2443

The City supports all Community Youth Sports Leagues including Prescott Little League, Prescott Girls Softball Association, AYSO Soccer, Prescott Youth Football, PAL Boxing, and the YMCA Youth Basketball program. Finally, the Recreation Services Department has partnered with Special Olympics of Arizona to offer swimming, basketball and bowling leagues for our special needs athletes.

*(Below left)* Averaging 1,000 players a year, youth soccer has more participants than any other youth sports program in Prescott. *(Photo courtesy of Prescott AYSO Youth Soccer)*

*(Below Right)* On May 16, 2014 Brad Ziegler Field was dedicated in memory of the 19 Granite Mountain Hotshots who lost their lives in the Yarnell Fire. Brad Ziegler, relief pitcher for the Arizona Diamondbacks sponsored the project through the Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation, Inc. APS also contributed to the project.

*(Bottom right)* In 2015 a record 32 teams from across Arizona and the U.S. participated in the Senior Women's Softball Tournament. Prescott Senior Olympics are held for three weeks each August. Events include bowling, golf, horseshoes, pickleball, shooting, swimming, tennis, track & field, softball, and volleyball. Prescott hosted 26 tournaments during the 2015 sports season. Tournaments at the Recreation Services Department's five sports complexes consisting of 13 fields, are growing in popularity and draw participants from across Arizona and other states to the area. *(Photos on right courtesy of Nancy Nesbit)*



# Antelope Hills Golf Course

In 1956, with assistance from many local businesses and volunteers, the City of Prescott constructed the Antelope Hills North course to provide golfing opportunities for area residents and visitors alike. In 1992, due to the increase in play, the City added the South course. With two great golf courses Antelope Hills soon gained a reputation as the destination for many golfers from Southern Arizona to beat the summer heat.

On October 1, 2013 Antelope Hills' operations were transferred from a separate City entity to the Recreation Services Department. Billy Casper Golf was selected as the partner for a new public/private partnership which began in May 2014. According to Bill Weller, General Manager, everyone involved in the partnership really cares and has a passion for Antelope Hills. The grounds and buildings continue to be maintained by a crew from the Recreation Services Department. All other employees were transferred from City employment to Billy Casper Golf with a 100% retention rate.

Antelope Hills continues to hold longstanding popular events while creating new programs, such as Women On Course. The Loyalty Program has experienced growth in membership from 200 to 1,400 people. Registrations for the Father Son Tournament sold out in two days, bringing 525 golfers to Antelope Hills. This tournament sees generations returning to Prescott from around the country. Other popular events, the Outhouse Open, and AIA Division III State High School Tournament, also draw visitors to Prescott.

## AMMENITIES & SERVICES

36 Holes of Great Golf  
Two courses (North and South) with a view.  
Open seven days a week.  
Hours: 6 a.m. - 7 p.m., April thru Oct. 31st  
8 a.m. - 6 p.m., Nov. thru Mar. 31st

### Practice Facility

Over 10 acres of practice facility featuring driving ranges with a separate area to practice chipping and putting techniques. The Practice Facility is open the same hours as the golf course and is available for general practice and instruction.

### Academy

Improve your game with one of our instructors;  
Tom Lilley, Mac McCarley

### Clubhouse

Located at the South Course, the clubhouse patio offers views of the course and Bradshaw Mountains from the patio.  
Clubhouse hours: 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Clubhouse bar hours: 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

### Pro Shop

Hours: 6 a.m. - 7 p.m., April thru Oct. 31st  
8 a.m. - 6 p.m., Nov. thru Mar. 31st  
Phone: (928) 776-7888

### The Manzanita Grill

(Located in the clubhouse)  
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner  
Phone: (928) 777-1888  
Breakfast: 6:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
Lunch: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Dinner (Fri.-Sat.): 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

### Centennial Center

Weddings, banquets, meetings or parties.  
Accommodates groups of up to 150 people.  
In house AV equipment available for presentations.  
Inquiry forms are available online.

Visit the Antelope Hills Golf Course website online through the city website under services at:  
[www.prescott-az.gov](http://www.prescott-az.gov)  
or [www.antelopehillsgolf.com](http://www.antelopehillsgolf.com)

You may also telephone us at (928) 776-7888 or visit us at 1 Perkins Dr., Prescott, AZ 86301 off State Highway 89 just south of the airport.



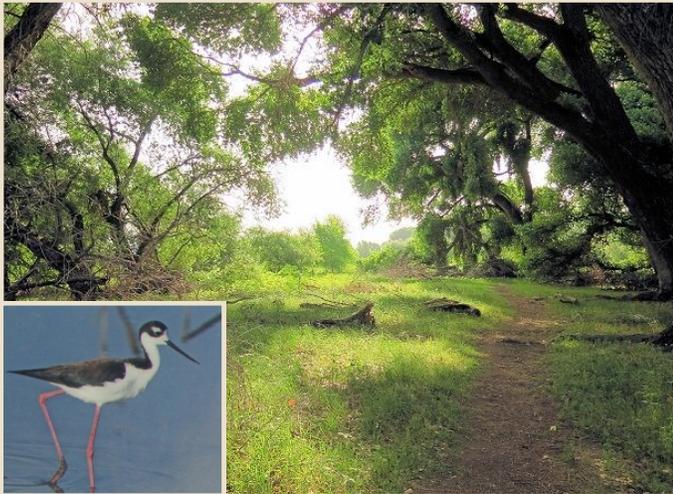
Managed by Billy Casper Golf  
"Provide each and every guest a fun and enjoyable experience"

Located in the clubhouse on the South Course, The Manzanita Grill serves up "fish fry" Fridays and the "prime rib special" on Saturdays.

36 Holes of  
Championship  
Golf With  
Scenic Views

Beat The Heat And Come Enjoy  
Our Cooler Summer  
Temperatures Today!





(Photo courtesy of Nancy Nesbit)

(Above) Cottonwood Grove at Willow Lake is a rookery for cormorants and great blue herons and is included within Prescott's Important Bird Area (IBA).

(Inset) Signs within the IBA point out areas of interest as well as various bird species such as the black-necked stilt.

### Prescott's Important Bird Area (IBA)

Watson and Willow Lakes, and a portion of Granite Creek flowing through most of Watson Woods Riparian Preserve, have been designated by the Arizona Audubon Society as an Important Bird Area (IBA) and are notable for the number of waterfowl they support during migration and winter periods.

These bodies of water are an oasis for resident and migratory birds alike. Lake levels and good food sources are among the determining factors in the numbers of birds arriving at the IBA during migration. According to the Arizona IBA, in wet years waterfowl numbers can exceed 5,000 at one time. The IBA is managed by the Prescott Audubon Society.



(Photo courtesy of Nancy Nesbit)

(Above) Watson Woods Riparian Preserve is also included within Prescott's IBA. In cooperation with the City, the preserve is managed by Prescott Creeks which has been restoring this important riparian area for nearly 25 years. Part of the Granite Creek Watershed, many small creeks flow into Granite Creek. The creek then flows through Watson Woods into the south end of Watson Lake. The spring-fed pond above is located in the woods.

### Community Nature Center

This 18-acre center was established by Prescott Unified School District (PUSD) in the mid-1970s, and was managed for many years by the Highlands Center for Natural History. Indigenous plants are the center's focus with a self-guided tour. A small pond, cabin built by the Youth Conservation Corp in 1976, teepee, and an amphitheater for programs dot the property. A water pump installed at one of three old wells on old Hardyville Rd., which was heavily used from 1865-1883, is located along the 1.5 miles of trail. Seasonal guides are available at the kiosk for nature study use while visiting the park.



(Photos courtesy of Nancy Nesbit)

(Above) Water pump at the Community Nature Center  
(Below) Stricklin Forest Park

### Natural Parks

There are several natural parks within the system. Stricklin Forest Park, adopted by Prescott Audubon Society, is a neighborhood park located in the pines. This natural park, with Butte Creek flowing through, has paths but few developed amenities. Adopted by the Friends of Acker Park, 90 acre Acker park also offers a self guided tour of local flora. The trails here total 1.5 miles. Amenities have been kept to a minimum, however restrooms, picnic areas, and an amphitheater are available.





(File Photo)

**Fishing at Goldwater Lake**  
A popular activity in Prescott, anglers fish year-round.



More information on fishing Prescott area lakes can be obtained from the Arizona Game and Fish Department online at:  
[http://www.azgfd.gov/h\\_f/fishPrescott.shtml](http://www.azgfd.gov/h_f/fishPrescott.shtml)

Additional information on fishing in Arizona including licenses and events is also available online at:  
[www.azgfd.gov/](http://www.azgfd.gov/)

## Fishing

Fishing is a popular sport in the Prescott area. Of the seven Prescott area lakes, three are within the City's jurisdiction and support a variety of fish. The species stocked in each lake varies, depending on elevation, depth, and water attributes.

A valid Arizona fishing license is required for all Arizona residents and non-residents 10 years of age or older, fishing any public accessible water in Arizona. Youth under the age of 10 and blind residents do not need a license to fish in Arizona.

Every year in June, Arizona Game and Fish Department holds a "Kid's First Fish Day" event at Goldwater Lake. The clinic is designed to introduce children to trout fishing. The clinic is free and doesn't require a fishing license (although registration for the event is required.)

Following is a list of the fish species in the lakes:

### Goldwater Lake:

Largemouth Bass, Crappie, Sunfish, Catfish (Channel), Bluegill, and Trout.

### Watson and Willow Lakes:

Largemouth Bass, Crappie, Sunfish, Catfish (Channel), and Bluegill.  
(Trout are also stocked in Watson Lake)

**Stocking schedules at Arizona lakes, including both Goldwater and Watson Lakes, by Arizona Game and Fish Department are available online at: [www.azgfd.net/artman/publish/FishingReport/](http://www.azgfd.net/artman/publish/FishingReport/)**

## Watson Lake Camping Information

There are 19 campsites available for reserved camping. To reserve camping, review the camping map (*available online*) and contact the Recreation Services Department office at 824 E. Gurley St., Prescott, AZ 86301 or call (928) 777-1122.

*For information on camping rules visit the City website at: [www.cityofprescott.net/services/parks/rentals](http://www.cityofprescott.net/services/parks/rentals)*

- Campsite \$15 per site/per night.
- Dry camping only. No hookups, water spigots available in campground.
- Showers and restrooms available, a parks employee will hand out the shower code to paid camping guests only.
- Camping guests will need to pay for their campsite at the kiosk at the entry gate to the park after 12:00 p.m. if reservations not already made.
- A campsite is defined as a maximum of four persons, (one RV/trailer and one tent; or two tents) with a maximum of two vehicles.
- Reservations cannot be accepted less than seven days prior to the arrival date.
- Cancellations will only be returned if notified within 72 hours of the date of the camping trip.

## Camping

Prescott's "Summer Season" begins the first weekend in April and continues through the second weekend in October. That means the two campgrounds at Watson Lake are opening. There are a total of 35 campsites at the two campgrounds. The north campground has 19 campsites that can be reserved. The remaining 16 campsites in the south campground are offered on a first come first served basis.



# Special Needs Activity Program

SNAP is another City of Prescott jewel. Social, creative and educational opportunities are provided for Prescott-area adults with developmental and/or cognitive disabilities. SNAP participants are active members of their community through involvement in service projects, athletics abilities through exercise programs and sports, and creating new friendships.



SNAP sponsors monthly dances, physical fitness activities, crafts, movie nights, and other special outings and social occasions.

## SNAP Programs

**Monthly Dances** - On the second Saturday of every month there is a themed dance from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Grace Sparks Memorial Activity Center, on Gurley Street in Prescott.

**Bingo** - The first Wednesday of the month, meetings to play B-i-n-g-o keeps number recognition strong. It doesn't hurt to win great prizes and have fun with friends either!

**Craft Night** - One Thursday every other month, getting together to make really cool crafts, helps with fine motor skills, and is an opportunity to make great gifts for family and friends.

**Exercise** - Mondays are water aerobic days at the YMCA from 1—2 p.m. Workout Wednesdays at the YMCA are geared toward helping improve core strength and well-being. In partnership with Prescott/Prescott Valley Area Special Olympics basketball, track and field, bocce, bowling, swim teams and more are offered.

## Make a Difference and Become a SNAP Volunteer!

*Because SNAP is a nonprofit organization, it relies heavily on community support through donations and volunteerism.*

*If you would like to make a difference in the life of a special needs person, consider volunteering your time. We are currently recruiting volunteers to help us provide the many activities and programs SNAP offers.*

*Enthusiasm and a willingness to serve are the only requirements. Just one evening a month helping out at a dance (in the kitchen, setting up or cleaning up, serving food, or selling tickets for the dance and raffle), is invaluable and helps us to maintain and expand this valuable program and all its activities.*

*SNAP also offers many other activities including Bingo, crafts, exercise at the YMCA, and community service projects (i.e. participation in Granite Creek Clean Up Day.)*

**Sherri Gates—SNAP Coordinator**  
City of Prescott Recreation  
Services Department

**E-mail:**  
[sherri.gates@prescott-az.gov](mailto:sherri.gates@prescott-az.gov)  
**Phone:** (928) 777-1554  
**Fax:** (928) 771-5843

## Other Ways to Support SNAP!

**Regifting Program:** Donate those unused gifts in your closet. These items are used for prizes at Bingo, and as door prizes for monthly dances.

**Sponsor Neighbor:** Support dances, karaoke, and other events by underwriting the cost of snacks and beverages.

**Financial Friend:** Make a financial contribution to continue offering low or no-cost activities to our SNAP members.

SNAP is a non-profit organization with all donations going directly to the program. Staff salaries are paid by the City of Prescott.

## Volunteers & Activities

Prescott is a lively community that benefits from a wide variety of volunteer opportunities and outdoor activities.

### Volunteer Park Rangers

The Recreation Services Department continues to benefit from the highly successful Volunteer Park Ranger Program.

Established in 2009, this program features a dedicated cadre of volunteers who patrol (i.e., via vehicles, bikes, and on-foot) parks, lakes, trails, and natural parklands.

Volunteers interface closely with visitors, provide information, and assist in enforcing park rules and regulations. They also assist with Trail Watch, special projects, and events.

Rangers commit to a minimum of four hours of service per week, and one meeting per month. Guest speakers often provide lectures on a wide range of topics.

### Over The Hill Gang

Well known in the Prescott area, the infamous Over The Hill Gang is an all volunteer group building and maintaining both City and National Forest trails. They complete two to three-tenths of a mile of trail during each three hour session. Working two mornings a week they complete approximately six to 10 miles of trail per year. All ages are welcome. The size and scope of our trail system is in large part due to the hard work volunteers contribute to the City and the Prescott area in general.

To volunteer for OHG visit the City's trails website at:  
[www.prescott-az.gov/services/parks/trails/](http://www.prescott-az.gov/services/parks/trails/)  
(click on the link Help Build Prescott's Trails System)



(Photo courtesy of Mark Carpenter)

Volunteer Park Rangers worked the Rededication of the Ruins at Willow Lake in April 2014.



(Photos above & below courtesy of Chris Hosking)

Over The Hill Gang is shown moving a boulder while constructing Centennial Trail.



### Trek-About Hiking Club

Organized over ten years ago, TrekAbout was developed by Prescott YMCA, Yavapai County Community Health Services, and Prescott Recreation Services Department, to provide an exercise resource to improve the health of area residents of all ages. There is a modest yearly membership fee and a calendar of hikes is provided to members. There are two hikes per week, graded on a scale of one to four (with four being the most difficult.) Hikes are on Tuesdays (1 hour) and Thursdays (2 Hours) and begin at 7 a.m. in the summer and 8 a.m. in the winter. Hiking boots required, carry water and all dogs must be on a leash. For information on TrekAbout, call (928) 777-1122, or visit the Prescott Recreation Services office in the Grace Sparkes Memorial Activity Center (Old Armory Building), at 824 E. Gurley St., Prescott, AZ 86301.



Watson Lake Upper Ramada

## Rentals

The City of Prescott Recreation Services Department has made many of their facilities available for rent to individuals, groups, businesses, and organizations. Ramadas at the three lakes and several parks are ideal for celebrations of all types, including weddings. Many of the sports facilities are also available for rent for tournaments and groups. For more information visit us on the City website or telephone the office. Information for parking passes for the three City lakes and Peavine Trail are also available online on the department's home page.



Pioneer Park Sports Complex

Information, requirements, and current fees for park facilities, activities, and rentals can be obtained through the City website at:

[www.prescott-az.gov/services/parks/rentals](http://www.prescott-az.gov/services/parks/rentals)

*Rentals are available for sports fields, gymnasium, Flagstone Room for conferences, kitchen, and Watson Lake Park for special events.*



**Recreation Services Department**  
Grace Sparkes Memorial Activity Center  
(Old Armory Building)  
824 E. Gurley St., Prescott, AZ 86301  
Telephone (928) 777-1122  
Visit us on the City website at:  
[www.prescott-az.gov/services/parks](http://www.prescott-az.gov/services/parks)

### Ramada Rentals

#### Large Ramadas

Goldwater Lake Ramada (capacity 100)	Half Day (4 hrs. or less) \$150
Goldwater Lakeview Ramada (capacity 100)	Whole Day (open to close) \$300
Goldwater Pinetop Ramada (capacity 100)	<i>Refundable deposit:</i>
Watson Lake Upper Ramada (capacity 150)	<i>*Commercial Event Rental - \$300</i>
Willow Lake Hilltop Ramada (capacity 150)	<i>Private Event Rental - \$200</i>
Willow Lake Garden Ramada (capacity 150)	

#### Medium Ramadas

Granite Creek Park Ramada (capacity 200)	Half Day (4 hrs. or less) \$100
Vista Park Ramada (capacity 100)	Whole Day (open to close) \$175
Willow Creek Park (capacity 100)	<i>Refundable deposit:</i>
	<i>*Commercial Event Rental - \$300</i>
	<i>Private Event Rental - \$200</i>

#### Small Ramadas

Watson Lake Lower Ramada (capacity 40)	Half Day (4 hrs. or less) \$75
Flinn Park Ramada (capacity 40)	Whole Day (open to close) \$125
Ken Lindley Park Ramada (capacity 40)	<i>Refundable deposit: \$200 all rentals</i>

#### Other Facilities

Goldwater Ceremonial Pad (capacity 100)	\$35.00 per hour, maximum 4 hours
Watson Lake Grass Area	\$35.00 per hour, \$200 refundable deposit on grass areas.
Granite Creek Park Grass Area	

*\*Commercial Event Rentals are any rental that requires a "Certificate of Liability"*

**Prices effective as of January 2015 and subject to change.**

This newsletter is a collaborative effort between City of Prescott employees and volunteers. Compilation and graphics provided by Nancy K. Nesbit, Volunteer Park Ranger.  
This newsletter is available on line at: [www.prescott-az.gov/services/parks](http://www.prescott-az.gov/services/parks)  
You can also pick up a copy at our office at the Grace Sparkes Memorial Activity Center.